

REMARKS

This Amendment, submitted in response to the Office Action dated May 17, 2005, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-10 and 12-24 remain pending in the application. Claims 2, 12 and 21 have been allowed, and claim 23 has been deemed allowable over the art of record but has been objected to for depending on a rejected base claim. Claims 3-10, 13-20, 22 and 24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Roylance (U.S.P. 6,390,579, previously of record). To expedite prosecution of this case, Applicant cancels claims 3-10, 13-20, 22 and 24 without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant further rewrites allowable claim 23 in independent form.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111
APPLN. NO. 09/556,821

DOCKET NO. Q58959

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

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